

In the Claims:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A liquid crystal display device comprising a liquid crystal layer and a pair of electrodes for applying voltage onto the liquid crystal installed on both sides of said liquid crystal layer, the liquid crystal layer and pair of electrodes being sandwiched by a pair of substrates, wherein:

~~an~~ at least one alignment direction controlling section ~~or sections~~ arranged in a predefined pattern and formed from a polymerizable compound that has been polymerized that show an effect to control the alignment directions, said section ~~or sections~~ obtained by the selective irradiation of active energy rays ~~are~~ is installed on ~~either~~ at least one of the surfaces only which contact surface that contacts the liquid crystal layer to define a liquid crystal layer contacting surface ~~surfaces, or each independently on both of the surfaces such~~ that said section directly contacts said liquid crystal layer, wherein ~~none of the alignment direction controlling said section or sections~~ does not contact both substrates ~~such that said alignment direction controlling section or sections directly contact said liquid crystal layer;~~

a first polarizer and a second polarizer are installed each on one of the outer sides of said pair of substrates so that the absorption axes of the two polarizers are perpendicular to each other;

a first 1/4 wavelength plate is installed between one of said substrates and the first polarizer;

a second 1/4 wavelength plate is installed between the other one of said substrates and the second polarizer; and,

the absorption axis of the first polarizer is at 45° from the phase delay axis of the first 1/4 wavelength plate, the absorption axis of the second polarizer is at 45° from the phase delay axis of the second 1/4 wavelength plate, and the phase delay axis of the first 1/4 wavelength plate and the phase delay axis of the second 1/4 wavelength plate are perpendicular to each other.

2. (Previously Presented) The liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein

said liquid crystal layer has a section obtained by polymerizing said polymerizable compound in the presence of said liquid crystal through selective irradiation of active energy rays over the substrate surface without applying voltage to said liquid crystal.

3. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 1, wherein said liquid crystal layer has a section obtained by polymerization through selective irradiation of active energy rays followed by irradiation of active energy rays all over the substrate surface with voltage application.

4. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 3, wherein at least one of said two irradiations of active energy rays has been carried out along a direction tilted from the normal to the substrate surface.

5. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to one of claim 1 or 2, where said liquid crystal layer shows a specific light shielding pattern caused by the alignment of liquid crystal molecules when a voltage is applied after said irradiation or irradiations of active energy rays.

6. (Original) A liquid crystal display device according to claim 5, wherein said specific light shielding pattern caused by the alignment of liquid crystal molecules comprises at least one pattern selected from the group consisting of a lattice pattern, a crisscross pattern, a pattern in the shape of stripes and a pattern in the shape of stripes with bends.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to one of claim 1 or 2, wherein at least one means selected from the group consisting of protrusions, depressions and a slit pattern in an electrode is installed on the liquid crystal layer contacting surface or surfaces which contact the liquid crystal layer.

9. (Previously Presented) A liquid crystal display device according to one of claim 1 or 2, wherein said liquid crystal has a negative dielectric constant anisotropy, and is aligned in the direction vertical to the substrate surface when no voltage is applied after said irradiation or irradiations of active energy rays.

10-18. (Cancelled)